

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1.       A method for providing assistance in magnetization switching to a pole  
2 tip, comprising:

3               disposing a magnetic bias field source proximate to the pole tip; and

4               causing current to flow through the magnetic bias field source for providing a

5 magnetic bias-field at a pole tip to facilitate pole-tip magnetization switching.

1           2.       The method of claim 1 wherein the providing the magnetic bias-field at a

2 pole tip further comprises providing the magnetic bias field substantially transverse to the

3 longitudinal axis of the pole tip.

1           3.       The method of claim 1 wherein the providing the magnetic bias-field at a

2 pole tip further comprises providing the magnetic bias field substantially transverse to an

3 easy axis of magnetization for the pole tip.